

IN THE CLAIMS:

Prior to calculation of the fee, please cancel claims 1-19 and add new claims 20-23 as follows:

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20. A method of detecting thyroid-associated ophthalmopathy in a patient comprising:

obtaining a biological sample from the patient, [and ]

isolating IgG from the patient sample,

exposing the IgG to orbital fibroblasts from patients with thyroid-associated ophthalmopathy,

measuring the level of

IL-16 or

RANTES produced by the orbital fibroblasts,

wherein an elevated level of IL-16 or RANTES indicates the presence or severity of thyroid-associated ophthalmopathy in the patient.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the level of IL-16 or RANTES is measured by an Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA).

22. The method of claim 20 wherein the patient is human.

23. The method of claim 20 wherein the biological sample is selected from the group  
consisting of:

blood,

urine,

synovial fluid,

ascites,

tissue.

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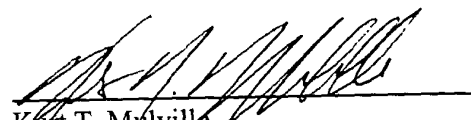
The present application is filed to correct inventorship to add Dr. William Cruikshank as provided by MPEP Section 201.03. The amendment to the claims and specification addresses items raised by the Examiner in the action in the parent application. An additional response to address prior art issues raised in the Action will be submitted in this continuing application.

Respectfully submitted,

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